

1 February 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Dr. Brockway Mc MILLAN

1. In the morning meeting you requested my views on the suitability of Dr. McMillan as D/NRO. In amplification of my previous memorandum (attached), I have done some additional checking around to refresh my personal recollections since I have only had an occasional contact with him during the past few years. This investigation I believe essentially confirms my original impression which is that he is a very competent technical individual with a rather strong systems orientation. His weaknesses may be in that he is not terribly imaginative nor oriented toward sparking new ideas. Perhaps more importantly for the purposes of the NRO, he is somewhat inflexible and doesn't divert easily from a course once he has decided to follow it. On the other hand, however, he is probably as good an individual for heading up such an organization as one is likely to find.

2. I should, however, like to reiterate my views and those expressed by General Carter and others at the morning meeting - that one is asking an individual to perform an impossible task - to be D/NRO and also Undersecretary of the Air Force. There are already very strong cleavages within the AF between the Undersecretary's office and the standard AF R&D organizations. To be a good Undersecretary one of the critical tasks will be to try to lead both these groups on a common program toward the over-all National good. To complicate this difficult problem by asking the individual also to take on the management of a National program in which both these elements of the AF have very strong personal interests is too much. The National Reconnaissance Program is of such overriding importance to National security that its conduct should not in any way be prejudiced by requiring the individual who is managing it to have divided loyalties in making the critical decisions that will be required. In fact, if the individual were to be a good D/NRO, he would probably be an unsatisfactory Undersecretary of the Air Force.

cc: DDCI

Executive Director

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.

Deputy Director (100-3064-63)

(Enclosure)